Wine Spectator

Napa Valley: Choose Your Own Adventure

Increasingly personalized experiences mean there's something for every wine lover

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hay bales and a vintage tractor.

Napa Valley is the ultimate playground for wine lovers. There are hundreds of wineries and dozens of world-class restaurants, not to mention terrific weather and picture-perfect views around every corner. With so many options, a trip to Napa can be easily tailored to your tastes, whether they lean toward the intimate, romantic, relaxing or adventurous.

"There's something for everyone in Napa," says vintner Suzanne Phifer Pavitt. "There's a Persian castle. There's an Italian castle. I just had to be genuine to who I am," she adds, describing her eco-chic tasting room made from reclaimed materials. Many flock to the Italian castle-inspired Castello di Amorosa or marvel at Darioush, the winery modeled after a Persian palace. Phifer Pavitt's tasting room reflects her rural roots in the state of Georgia and is evocative in its own way, complete with

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Open By appointment only
Cost Tastings \$40

Phifer Pavitt is a hidden gem, a warm and friendly tasting room with plenty of style. The building is the epitome of a refined, rustic, eco-chic aesthetic. The winery is constructed from parts of a 19th-century barn found nearby, which was taken down board by board and rebuilt. Inside, the tasting room is elegant, with beautiful reclaimed wood walls, chandeliers made from recycled snow fencing, and a floating tasting bar composed of a suspended slab of black walnut cut from a fallen tree. The lineup includes a terrific Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc.

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